

**Virginia Center for Onsite Wastewater Training**  
Southside Virginia Community College Occupational/Technical Center  
1041 West 10<sup>th</sup> Street  
Pickett Park (Fort Pickett)  
Blackstone, Virginia 23824

**Vision Statement:**

Comprehensive understanding of onsite wastewater practices across Virginia

**Mission Statement:**

Provide education and training to ensure effective onsite wastewater systems, maintain water quality, and protect public health.

**MINUTES OF THE VCOWT STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**13 July 2007**

**Core Group Members Present:**

Tom Joy, Chair	VDH / Blacksburg	<a href="mailto:Thomas.Joy@vdh.virginia.gov">Thomas.Joy@vdh.virginia.gov</a>
Jim Bowles	VDH / Lynchburg	<a href="mailto:Jim.Bowles@vdh.virginia.gov">Jim.Bowles@vdh.virginia.gov</a>
K.R. (Trapper) Davis	CPEG / VOWRA / NOWRA Rep	<a href="mailto:krdavis@cpegllc.com">krdavis@cpegllc.com</a>
Jay Duell	VDH / Western Tidewater	<a href="mailto:Jay.Duell@vdh.virginia.gov">Jay.Duell@vdh.virginia.gov</a>
Ed Dunn	VDH / Piedmont	<a href="mailto:Ed.Dunn@vdh.virginia.gov">Ed.Dunn@vdh.virginia.gov</a>
Jamie Hawley	VDH / Piedmont	<a href="mailto:Jamie.Hawley@vdh.virginia.gov">Jamie.Hawley@vdh.virginia.gov</a>
Anish Jantrania	VDH / Richmond	<a href="mailto:Anish.Jantrania@vdh.virginia.gov">Anish.Jantrania@vdh.virginia.gov</a>
Beth Manghi	VDH / Chickahominy	<a href="mailto:Beth.Manghi@vdh.virginia.gov">Beth.Manghi@vdh.virginia.gov</a>
Douglas Phillips	SERCAP Rep	<a href="mailto:DPhillips@SERCAP.org">DPhillips@SERCAP.org</a>
Karl Rudolph	VDH / Stafford	<a href="mailto:Karl.Rudolph@vdh.virginia.gov">Karl.Rudolph@vdh.virginia.gov</a>
Erik Severson	VTSS Rep	<a href="mailto:ersevers@vt.edu">ersevers@vt.edu</a>

**Core Group Members Absent:**

Peter Hunt	SVCC Rep	<a href="mailto:Peter.Hunt@sv.vccs.edu">Peter.Hunt@sv.vccs.edu</a>
Danna Revis	VDH / Richmond	<a href="mailto:Danna.Revis@vdh.virginia.gov">Danna.Revis@vdh.virginia.gov</a>
Tom Reynolds	SVCC Rep	<a href="mailto:tom.reynolds@sv.vccs.edu">tom.reynolds@sv.vccs.edu</a>

**Associate Group Members Present:**

N/A

**Associate Group Members Absent:**

N/A

**Other Attendees:**

Jeff Hasson	Hasson Excavating, Inc	<a href="mailto:jeff@hassonx.com">jeff@hassonx.com</a>
-------------	------------------------	--

Meeting opened at: 10:10

**Committee Reports:**

Site Development Committee: Trapper Davis (Chair) –Jeff Hasson, Doug Phillips, Jim Bowles, Erik Severson, Tom Joy

Old business

- Site Clearing: Tom Joy reported no additional contact with James River Equipment. However, he is scheduled to meet at the VCOWT demonstration area on Wednesday July 18<sup>th</sup> with representatives of the Army Reserve National Guard Engineers at who will determine whether the work involved in

preparing the site will fit into their training program. Thanks to Doug Phillips who worked his way through the military bureaucracy of Ft. Pickett to enable the meeting to be set up. Doug reminded the Committee that if the Army Reserve Engineers decide not to do the project, there is still a possibility that the USMC can do it in September.

- Rainwater Collection System: Jim Bowles, Anish Jantrania and Tom Joy met with Don Alexander to discuss this project. Don's main objection is financial. There is no money for the project. He has no objections, if the project can be done through donations. Tom Joy obtained names of some businesses that might potentially want to donate gutters and downspouts. The following persons volunteered to ask various businesses for donations: Ed Dunn – Gutters and downspouts - The Lumber Yard in Farmville; Doug Phillips – Gutters and downspouts - Home Depot in South Hill; Beth Manghi - 2000-gallon tank – Richmond area tank manufacturer.
- VCOWT Demonstrations: The Site Development Committee will visit the North Carolina Onsite Training Center to observe their demonstrations and get ideas for VCOWT. The visit is set up for Friday August 11<sup>th</sup>. Several people decided to drive their own vehicles. Jay Duell said that 4 or 5 people could ride with him and chip in for gas. The trip will leave from the Occ/Tech Center on August 10<sup>th</sup> at 10:15 AM.

New Business

- There was no new Site Development Committee business.

Master List Committee: Beth Manghi (Chair)

Old Business:

- Email Notifications: Beth reported that she had not sent out a notice for the EasyCAD class because the information for that class has not been posted on the website.

New Business:

- There was no new E-mail master List Committee business.

Logo/Brochure/Exhibit Committee: Jim Bowles (Chair), Tom Joy

Old Business:

- Tom Joy reported that had had no success in trying to get a pop-up display donated for the VCOW exhibit for the September training session in SW Virginia. However, he had asked Dina Allen to look for one around DEQ HQ. Anish Jantrania reported that a display unit is located in the VDH Conference Room. It was suggested and approved that a list of donors be added to the exhibit.

New business:

- It was suggested that a list of donors be added to the exhibit.

DPOR Committee: (Trapper Davis (Chair), Jeff Hasson, Tom Joy

Old Business:

- Trapper Davis discussed DPOR's upcoming assumption of licensure authority for four categories of onsite professionals with respect to VDH (and VCOWT) and VOWRA's current and potential future involvement as follows:
  - 1) Inspectors: DPOR is satisfied with the existing NSF and NAWT national programs for certifying inspectors, and will likely license through those programs. VOWRA is the NSF agent for Virginia. NAWT has not yet decided on an agent for Virginia.
  - 2) Installers: VOWRA currently has a certification program that requires proof of an A or B Contractor license and insurance, and the applicant must take the VOWRA "Septic A to Z" course. DPOR is considering adopting this program as its licensure program, but has not yet made a decision;
  - 3) Service (O&M) providers: VOWRA is developing a three level certification program for this category that DPOR is considering adopting as its licensure program, although nothing is definite yet;
  - 4) AOSEs: AOSE certification is currently controlled by VDH and the current certification program is likely to be adopted by DPOR as its licensure program. VDH will likely continue to train AOSEs and administer the testing.

Discussion centered on opportunity for VCOWT to be involved in the licensure and the ongoing continuing education that will be required to maintain licensure by all of the groups. If VCOWT were to get involved, it would have to develop a training cadre and course curricula to provide initial

trainings at one or two times per year, with frequent courses offering continuing education. One viewpoint was that VOWRA, which is 1) already involved in certifying inspectors, installers, and service providers, 2) is working with DPOR to develop licensure programs, and 3) has certified and experienced staff, is better positioned than VCOWT to administer licensure programs for inspectors, installers, and service providers. The AOSE program, for which VDH administrative and training infrastructure is already in place, is best suited for VDH/VCOWT rather than VOWRA. There is opportunity for both VCOWT and VOWRA to provide continuing education for all groups, although it is unlikely that VOWRA will become involved in AOSE training. The question of how VCOWT can best participate in licensure programs will be discussed at future meetings. Trapper Davis reported that VOWRA has almost completed a draft MOU that outlines its ideas of how VCOWT and VOWRA can cooperate. He also reported that VOWRA has already met with VDH (Don Alexander, Bob Hicks and Jeff Lake) regarding the MOU. A meeting between VOWRA and SVCC to discuss a separate MOU is scheduled for sometime this month.

New business:

- Trapper Davis reported that he has been appointed by the Governor to the new DPOR Board for Licensure of Onsite Soil Evaluators, Installers, O&M Providers and Inspectors.
- The DPOR Committee will produce for distribution to SC members a brief summary of its conclusions to date that will contain suggestions as to how VCOWT might proceed..

Onsite Training Committee: Danna Revis (Chair), Jay Duell, Jim Bowles

Old Business:

- Jay Duell reported that the Onsite Training Task Team will meet August 9<sup>th</sup> and will begin considering curriculum development and instructors to align Danna Revis' "Basic Onsite Wastewater" classes with the SVCC two-day class format.

New Business:

- There was no new Onsite Training Committee business.

SVCC Liaison Committee: Tom Reynolds (Chair), Peter Hunt, Danna Revis, Tom Joy

Old Business:

- Groundwater Modeling Class: When the 2007 schedule was developed, a Groundwater Modeling class was proposed for October. Anish Jantrania reported that the person who was planning to teach the course has left the area and will not be available. The course was removed from the schedule.
- Puraflo Training: More than 50 students attended the training given by Puraflo at the Occ/Tech Center on June 21<sup>st</sup>.
- VCOWT/SVCC MOU Revision: Work is still underway, but is progressing slowly. No draft is available yet.
- New Classroom: Construction of the Occ/Tech Center Annex that will contain the dedicated VCOWT classroom is progressing rapidly. No VDH funds are currently available for furnishing the classroom.
- Online registration: The website has not been updated to include online registration.

New Business:

- It was suggested that future courses might be developed for county administrators to explain alternative treatment technology.

Website Committee: Anish Jantrania (Chair)

Old Business:

- Website design: Anish suggested that VCOWT adopt a website format similar to the one used by the NCSU Onsite Training Center. After discussion, it was agreed that that would be a good basic format which could be modified as needed. Anish reported that Brian Shook of OEHS has agreed to set up such a website for VCOWT by January 2008.

New Business:

- There was no new Website Committee business.

General

Old Business:

- Bylaws: Consideration of possible amendments to the recently adopted bylaws was tabled until the next meeting.
- Donations: Tom Joy reported: 1) that he had received all of the donations of materials needed to build a recirculation system as a teaching aid for his “Pumps and Controls” class to be taught in September and is working on the system; 2) that he is exploring ways to make Certificates of Appreciation to be presented to donors, and 3) that he is revising the Acknowledgements page of his “Pumps and Controls Manual” to list individuals and organizations that have contributed to the manual and the recirculation system.

New Business:

- At Tom Joy’s suggestion, a “Donations Committee” was established with him as Chair to solicit donations and acknowledge donors.
- 

Meeting Adjourned 12:25